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GOLBORNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
INTERIM REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE
YEAR 1942.

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Accountant	-	Mr. A.L. Hughes

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Lowton.

To the Chairman and Members
of the Urban District Council of Golborne.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my interim Annual Report for 1942. In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, certain vital statistics are omitted from the Report for security reasons and these will be published eventually in a comprehensive report after the cessation of hostilities.

There has been no apparent deterioration in the general health of the District due to war conditions during the year. It is very satisfactory to be able to report this in the fourth year of war but it must not be presumed that this satisfactory state will continue automatically throughout the increasing strain and restrictions of war, and it is essential that the Health Services should be maintained at a high level of efficiency.

The Health, Maternity and Child Welfare Departments have managed to carry out effectively their routine and multitudinous additional wartime duties and all members of the staffs have worked at full pressure to cover the work. Those officers with administrative Civil Defence responsibilities have devoted a considerable amount of overtime to achieve the results obtained.

The incidence of notifiable infectious disease, with the exception of measles, was low. The increase in the total figures shown in the Report was entirely due to an epidemic of measles late in the year. Measles tends to recur in two-yearly cycles and was to be expected again in the winter of 1942-43. The great majority of cases occurred in children as is usual but there were fourteen cases amongst the W.R.N.S. stationed in the District.

Diphtheria was less than in 1941 and there was no epidemic tendency, cases occurring sporadically throughout the year.

Regarding the Diphtheria Immunisation Scheme, it is pleasing to report that the percentage of immunised children in the District has risen from 46.66% to 62.12%, but there are still too many parents who, knowing little or nothing about immunisation, "don't hold with that kind of thing." It is satisfactory that more pre-school children than school children were immunised in 1942. This is due to the concentration on younger children during the year and to the arrangements made for immunisation during Child Welfare sessions. Every effort will be made to maintain and improve the percentage of immunised children.

During the two years the Council's Scheme has operated, four immunised children developed mild diphtheria; fifty-one cases occurred in non-immunised children in the same period.

Attendances at Child Welfare Clinics have increased. This is satisfactory, but in the case of the accommodation provided at the British Legion, Newchurch, has led to a certain amount of congestion. No special arrangements are made for separate ante-natal clinics yet but nineteen expectant mothers have attended at the Welfare sessions for advice. In the case of the Golborne Clinic, it has been possible to make a few examinations. There seems to be an increasing demand for confinement in hospitals due to the wartime disruption of home life and the shortage of domestic help.

(OVER)

The establishment of a Wartime Nursery in the District was under consideration in the early part of the year but owing to difficulties the question was left in abeyance for the time being.

Finally, I have to thank the Health Committee, Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, the officers and staff of the Departments and the ladies of the Voluntary Committees for their continued support and co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

S.K. APPLETON.

Medical Officer of Health.

Statistics

Area in acres -
 Population: Census 1931 -
 Registrar General's estimate, 1940. -
 Number of inhabited houses (Census 1931) -
 End of year, 1942 according to Rate Books -
 Rateable Value - £61,258.
 Last year - £59,275.
 Sum represented by the penny rate - £229 gross.
 Last year - £226.

Deaths notified were 150 (68 females and 82 males) compared with 136 last year, an increase of 14.

The Crude Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated population =

Transferable Deaths included in the above figures were 60.

The following is a list of places in which Residents died outside the district.

Leigh	-	1
Royal Infirmary, Chester	-	2
Royal Infirmary, Manchester	-	1
Prestwich Infirmary	-	1
Royal Infirmary, Liverpool	-	1
Warrington Infirmary	-	1
Newton-le-Willows	-	1
Public Assistance Hospital, Atherton	-	15
Heath Charnock Pulmonary Hospital	-	1
Leigh Infirmary	-	5
Astley Sanatorium	-	2
St Mary's Hospital, Manchester	-	1
Christopher Nursing Home, Wigan	-	3
Victoria Hospital, Blackpool	-	1
Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan	-	10
Wrightington Hospital	-	1
Borough General Hospital, Warrington	-	1
Old Warps Home, Warrington	-	1
154, Upholland Road, Billinge	-	1
Salford Royal Hospital	-	1
Warrington R.D.C.	-	1
St Joseph's Hospital, Manchester	-	1
Chadderton Pulmonary Hospital	-	1
Doncaster	-	1

Deaths from Compulsory Notifiable Diseases.

Diphtheria	-	1
Pneumonia	-	6
Respiratory Tuberculosis	-	2
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	-	2

Deaths from Cancer.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Golborne	7	3	10
Lowton	4	1	5
Culcheth	1	1	2
Kenyon	0	0	0
			<u>17</u>

Deaths by Accident.

<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Totals</u>
9	3	12

Deaths of Infants under
1 Year of Age.

<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Totals</u>
9	5	14

Death rate per 1,000 live and still births -

Deaths from Measles - Nil

Deaths from Whooping Cough - Nil

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) - Nil

Deaths from Puerperal Pyrexia - Nil

Births notified - 248. Crude birth rate equals of the
estimated population.

53 of these took place in Maternity Homes.

Still births - 5

Infectious Disease.

Diphtheria. 23 cases were notified, 10 in the first half year and 13 in the latter part. 12 were school children, 9 pre-school children and 2 over school age. A few of the cases were of the virulent type but chiefly the cases were quite mild. There was one death from Diphtheria; medical attention was sought so late that the case was hopeless and the child died the day it was removed to hospital.

All cases were removed to hospital. Usually notification is by telephone in the first instance. This facilitates the use of Anti-Toxin whilst in hospital.

Scarlet Fever. 17 cases were notified, 6 were school children, 9 pre-school children and 2 over school age. There were no deaths from Scarlet Fever.

<u>Infectious Disease</u>	<u>No. of cases</u>	<u>Under 5 years of age</u>	<u>Over 5 years of age</u>	<u>Removed to Hospital</u>
Scarlet Fever	17	14	3	9
Diphtheria	23	15	8	23
Suspected Diphtheria	7	2	5	7
Para-Typhoid Fever	1	-	1	1
Erysipelas	4	-	4	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	5	5	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	2	-	2	2
Pneumonia - Acute and Influenzal	11	3	8	1
Whooping Cough	14	14	-	-
Measles	116	97	19	6
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	-	3	3
	205	150	53	55

Number of cases of Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever, 5 years commencing:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Diphtheria</u>	<u>Scarlet Fever</u>
1938	70	23
1939	53	25
1940	18	49
1941	32	12
1942	23	17

Average case rates per 1,000 of the estimated population for the 5 years commencing:-

1938 to 1942 - Diphtheria -- Scarlet Fever -

Disinfection. Rooms, bedding and other articles are disinfected by Formic Aldehyde Fumigation.

Disinfestation. Arrangements have been made with the Borough of Leigh for disinfestation after Scabies.

Hospital Accommodation for Infectious Disease.

The Astley Sanatorium, Tyldesley, under the control of the Leigh Joint Hospital Board, of which the Golborne Urban District Council is a constituent Authority.

Small Pox - Astley Sanatorium - Number of beds as required.

For other infectious diseases - Astley Sanatorium, Tyldesley.
Number of beds available - as required.

Cost of Hospital treatment for infectious diseases per patient day, year ending 31st March, 1942 - 39.43185d.

Ambulance Facilities.

Accident and non-infectious cases - Motor Ambulance owned by the Council.

Infectious Diseases - Motor Ambulance provided by the Leigh Joint Hospital Board.

Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations.

Diphtheria - 70 Swabs were examined, 13 were positive.

Other diseases - None.

Diphtheria Antitoxin.

Supplies are available at the Council Offices, Lowton, and at the Sub-Council Offices, Worsley Street, Golborne.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Immunisation against diphtheria was begun on the 11th January, 1941, and is being continued.

Children have been treated using the two injections method with Alum Precipitated Toxoid.

The percentage of children immunised in the year 1941 was 46.66%

The following table shows the percentage of children treated in each of the schools:-

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION - YEAR 1942

School	No. of child- ren	No. of children immunised dur- ing 1942.	Total No. of children immunised	Total Percent- age
<u>Golborne Council</u>				
(Infants)	182	30	137	75.27%
(Juniors)	278	12	180	64.78%
(Seniors)	217	13	121	55.76%
<u>Golborne R.C.</u>				
(Infants)	110	15	87	79.09%
(Mixed)	184	11	125	67.93%
<u>Golborne Parochial</u>				
(Infants)	89	7	40	44.93%
(Mixed)	98	6	52	52.04%
<u>Lowton C. of E.</u>				
(Infants)	49	8	49	100%
(Mixed)	128	16	95	73.77%
<u>Lowton St. Mary's</u>				
(Infants)	51	10	38	74.50%
(Mixed)	111	5	45	40.54%
<u>Lowton Council</u>				
(Infants)	42	2	34	80.95%
(Mixed)	91	4	53	58.24%
<u>Culcheth Council</u>				
Infants)				
Juniors)	139	19	95	68.34%
(Seniors)	198	11	43	21.71%
<u>Glazebury C. of E.</u>				
(Mixed)	79	1	49	62.02%
	2046	170	1246	61.14%
Children under school age	705	Estd. 233	474	67.23%
Total	2751	403	1720	62.12%

Tuberculosis.

This service is under the control of the Lancashire County Council. The area dispensary is situated at 13, Church Street, Leigh, and is open on Wednesdays and Fridays at 10 a.m. and the second Thursday in each month at 6.30 p.m.

<u>Number of cases</u> <u>Notified</u>	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>		<u>Totals</u>
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	
Golborne	2	1	5	2	8
Lowton	0	2	2	1	5
Culcheth	1	2	0	0	3
Kenyon	0	0	0	0	0
	3	5	5	3	16

Deaths.

Golborne	0	2	0	1	3
Lowton	0	0	0	1	1
Culcheth	0	0	0	0	0
Kenyon	0	0	0	0	0
	0	2	0	2	4

Removed from Register.

Diagnosis not confirmed	0	0	0	1	1
Disease arrested	0	2	0	3	5
Removed from district	2	2	0	0	4
	2	4	0	4	10

Number of cases on Register at 31st December, 1942.

Golborne	6	5	10	9	30
Lowton	0	5	5	6	16
Culcheth	2	4	3	1	10
Kenyon	0	1	0	0	1
	8	15	18	16	57

Inspection of Foods.

The War measure of the slaughtering of animals in a central slaughter house outside the area of the Golborne Urban District Council still exists. 71 lbs. of Buttock of Beef have been condemned as being unfit for human food.

The following other foods were inspected and condemned as being unfit for human food:-

348	Eggs
196 lbs.	Tinned Meat of various kinds.
4 "	Cheese
140 "	Tinned Milk
64 "	" Fish of various kinds.
176 "	" Fruit of various kinds.
17 "	" Vegetables of various kinds.

Milk. The Cowsheds and Dairies are inspected as frequently as possible. The general standard is good.

Two supplementary licences have been issued to retail Pasteurised Milk.

Producers on the register	-	37
Accredited Milk Producers	-	5
Retail Milk Purveyors (other than Producers)	-	20
Wholesale Milk Purveyors	-	6
Inspections during the year	-	76

Defects dealt with - Limewashing 11, Drainage 4, Defective Floors 3, Unclean Cows 3, - Total 21.

Samples of Milk are taken and submitted for examination at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester.

Number of samples taken.

Culcheth Council School	-	1
Producers and Retailers	-	31
Total	-	32
Positive Samples	-	3
Negative Samples	-	29

Bakehouses.

Number of Bakehouses on the register	-	13
Number of inspections	-	32

Defects found and dealt with - Limewashing 4, Defective Floors 3, Drainage 2, Absence of Abstract 2, - Total 11.

The structural conditions of the bakehouses are good.

Other places where food is prepared or stored.

Number on register	-	33
Number of inspections	-	49

Defects found and dealt with - Limewashing 11, Cleansing of Vehicles 3, Drains 2, Roofs 1, Floors 5, - Total 22.

Water Supply.

Golborne. Excessive deposits of lime was considered.
Samples of Water examined - 1.
Result - Satisfactory.

Lowton. Samples of Water examined.
There was evidence of slight faecal pollution in two samples. Subsequent samples examined proved the pollution was of a temporary nature.
Number of houses supplied from wells - 3.

There were no extensions of water mains during the year.

Rivers & Streams.

Pollutions with sewage occurred at the Millingford Brook. The cause of the pollution was investigated.

It was found that subsidence had caused disturbance of the sewers and sewage was flowing into the brook in the Ashton-in-Makerfield Area. This matter was reported to the Chief Inspector of the Lancashire Rivers Board and the Ashton-in-Makerfield District Council.

Housing.

New houses completed during the year	- 188
" " built by Local Authority	- 0
" " " by other bodies or persons	- 188
Houses found unfit for human habitation	- 4
Houses not to be in all respects fit for habitation	- 4
Houses rendered fit (temporarily)	- 4
Houses demolished	- 0

Defects or Nuisances discovered and dealt with.

Defective drains	- 71
" Water Closets	- 25
" Privies and Ashpits	- 15
" Pail Closets	- 0
" Slopstones and Pipes	- 19
" Pavements	- 16
" Spouts	- 24
" Windows	- 16
" Floors	- 6
" Roofs	- 49
Dampness	- 20
Dustbins	- 128
Other defects	- 54
Privy Middens converted to Fresh Water Closets-	0
Total	<u>443</u>

Summary of Inspections.

Dwelling houses under Public Health and Housing Acts	- 920
Bakehouses	- 33
Slaughter Houses	- 26
Other places where food is prepared or stored	- 61
Travelling Vans	- 5
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops	- 95
Factories	- 36
Schools	- 14
Farms where pigs are kept	- 97
Other inspections not included above	- 84
	<u>1371</u>
Number of informed notices served	- 231
" " Statutory " "	- 26
Legal proceedings	- 0

Factories.

Number of factories on the register in which Mechanical Power is used	-
Number of factories on the register in which Mechanical Power is not used	-
Number of inspections	- 36

Defects found:-

Insufficient light in sanitary conveniences	- 2
Approaches to sanitary conveniences	- 2
Fire escapes	- 1
Limewashing	- 7
Total defects	<u>12</u>

Maternity & Child Welfare.

The Maternity & Child Welfare work is carried out by the Local Authority and is conducted by the Medical Officer of Health.

All mothers, and children under 5 years of age, or expectant mothers may attend the Child Welfare Centres.

There is one Health Visitor who visits all infants and nursing mothers at least monthly, and other children under 5 years of age as often as possible.

Arrangements have been made with Dr. Dougal of Manchester as consultant to whom cases are referred if necessary.

The Child Welfare Centres are held at:-

Independent Methodist School, High Street, Golborne,
alternate Thursdays at 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.

Methodist School, Newton Road, Lowton,
alternate Thursdays at 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.

British Legion Club Room, Common Lane, Culcheth,
alternate Tuesdays at 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.

No Ante-Natal Clinic is established.

The following Maternity Homes are available for the reception of expectant mothers, and young children:-

Warrington County Borough Maternity Homes, by agreement.
St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester, by arrangement.
The Firs Maternity Home, Leigh - the number of beds available, as required.

Hospital arrangements for Ante-Natal and Post-Natal conditions are adequate.

Arrangements for Orthopaedic treatment have been made with the Lancashire County Council at the Ashton-in-Makerfield Clinic and Liverpool and Heswall Hospitals.

Cases of Puerperal Fever, Puerperal Pyrexia and Ophthalmia Neonatorum can be admitted to Astley Sanatorium or the Warrington County Borough Hospitals.

Live births	-	243
Still births	-	5
		248

Transferred births	-	53
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Number of Health Visitors	-	1
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Number of visits to children under 1 year of age:-

First visits	-	201
Total visits	-	1654
To children between the ages of 1 and 5 years	-	1704

Total visits	-	3559
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Number of Child Welfare Centres	-	3
Ante-Natal Clinics provided by the Council	-	0
Number of children who first attended the Child Welfare Centres who were under 1 year of age	-	190
Between the ages of 1 and 5 years of age	-	30
Number of children under 5 years of age who attended the Centres and who at the end of the year were:-		
Under 1 year of age	-	156
Over 1 year of age	-	314

Infectious Disease.

Puerperal Pyrexia	-	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	5
Removed to Hospital	-	0
Vision impaired	-	0

Measles in children under 5 years of age - 97

Whooping Cough in children under 5 years of age - 14

Total - 119

Maternal deaths - Nil.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age - 14
= 6.63 per cent of live births

Milk and Food supplied to expectant and nursing mothers, and Children.

Proprietary dried milk and other preparations are supplied by the Voluntary Committee to expectant mothers, and children under 5 years of age. Under the National Milk Scheme expectant and nursing mothers, and children under five years of age can obtain a supply of milk either free or at a cheap rate.

The following milk was supplied during the year:-

Number of persons supplied with Free Milk	-	193
Number of persons supplied with Cheap Milk	-	951

Supplementary Vitamins.

The issue of fruit juices to children under two years of age and of cod liver oil to all children under five years of age has been continued and a high percentage of parents have taken advantage of the Scheme.

Number of children receiving Fruit Juices and Cod Liver Oil:-

<u>Free</u> - Fruit Juices	-	102
Cod Liver Oil	-	58
<u>For Payment</u> - Fruit Juices & Cod Liver Oil	-	360
Cod Liver Oil	-	283

Issue of Coupons for Baby Clothing.

Under this Scheme an expectant mother may make application to be supplied with additional clothing coupons. Applicants must produce a medical certificate of pregnancy and are then entitled to an allowance of 60 clothing coupons for baby clothes.

During the year additional clothing coupons have been issued to 212 persons.

